

**YOUTH INITIATIVES WORKING GROUP held at COUNCIL OFFICES  
LONDON ROAD SAFFRON WALDEN at 5.00 pm on 29 JUNE 2005**

Present: - John Whittaker – Chairman  
 Peter Pearson – Essex County Council – Emergency Planning  
 Gerry Smith – Essex Boys' Clubs  
 Duncan Lewis and Jason Thomson – Essex Fire Service  
 Kathryn Nessling – Essex Police Schools Officer  
 Geoff Parker – Essex Scouts  
 Chris Pegley – Essex Young Peoples Drug and Alcohol Services  
 Ann Jones – Essex Youth Service  
 Frankie Hasson – Social Services  
 Gaynor Bradley, Linda Bunting, Darren Connew, Fiona Gardiner,  
 Rachel Hutchinson, Councillor David Morson - Uttlesford District  
 Council  
 Debbie Lowe – Uttlesford PCT

1 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Ann Barnes, Emma Norris, Debbie Rhodes and Liz Tay.

Darren Connew explained that James Sadler, Communications and PR Officer, had been unable to attend the meeting to discuss the local press network. It was hoped that he would be able to attend at a future meeting.

2 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 March 2005 were confirmed as a correct record. There were no matters arising.

3 **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FROM CSAT**

The Chairman reported from the last CSAT meeting on the reporting process. He said that one significant element had been discussed and asked Peter Pearson to explain. Peter gave details of a new system which would require each group to submit their funding applications speedily to ensure that projects would receive sufficient funding. He said that the way in which the Action Team was structured required investigation on how work could be focused and targeted. It was considered important to determine what the Action Team's role actually was.

It had been agreed that CSAT facilitate a meeting which would be held on 15 July 2005 for all the chairmen to discuss ways forward. The aim of the day would be to ensure that CSAT operated as efficiently as possible in the future. An external auditor had been conducting interviews with members of CSAT and other key partners to ascertain what opinions were on the functions of the Action Team at present. The auditor's findings would be reported at the beginning of the meeting and discussions would then follow on how local community safety projects would be funded in the future.

Rachel Hutchinson referred to local area agreements and said that the Action Teams would need to provide evidence, background and worth and how

much cash was actually required. She encouraged members of the Working Group to attend and said that it would be a worthwhile exercise.

#### 4 **PERFORMANCE MONITORING**

##### **(i) Budget and Action Plan**

Darren reported that the latest draft of the Action Plan had now been distributed. He explained that requests for funding had been received totalling approximately £20,000, although there was only £10,000 'in the pot', therefore existing projects would get priority. In future, those agencies requesting funding would need to be more precise with their statistics. Rachel Hutchinson said that a great deal depended on what was decided at the meeting on 15 July and Peter Pearson considered that everything on the Action Plan would still happen, just in a different way.

**ACTION:** It was agreed that the draft Action Plan would be implemented.

##### **(ii) Support for Young People 10-13 years**

Fiona Gardiner reported that the Children's Service Directory was useful for making links, for example IPDAS schemes and the STOP project, although she said that there was a problem in that she was not working with large enough groups and was trying to place young people in existing groups. She referred to the Fire Break scheme in Halstead and was promoting the 'Prison No Way' workshops which primary schools were interested in as they had various problems.

Kathryn Nessling gave a précis of various Community Safety Tasking Groups meetings which had been held in different areas. These groups had the aim of reducing crime and disorder. Saffron Walden was doing its own local school partnership meetings specifically for primary and secondary schools. It was considered to be a positive step which was going well and identifying what was needed. These meetings were an offshoot of the Community Safety Tasking Groups.

##### **(iii) Community Safety Strategy 2005-08**

Rachel Hutchinson reported that the Strategy had now been completed and was based on all statistics received.

At this point the Chairman introduced Debbie Lowe from the Uttlesford PCT to the meeting and apologised for not introducing her before.

#### 5 **FEEDBACK FROM YOUTH STRATEGY GROUP**

Ann Jones referred to the team leaders report which had been circulated to agencies. Gaynor said that the item regarding Africa had a good presentation.

The Chairman referred to the skateboard park project which it was reported needed more funding. The project had not been successful in its bid for lottery funding. Peter Pearson asked why the Saffron Walden project was so expensive when others in the district had been created on less funding. He

said that, before more financial support could be provided and a final decision made, further evidence should be provided. Gaynor Bradley considered that the Town Council should provide a management scheme to administer the project.

## 6 **CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (CYPSP)**

It was reported that a strategy had not finally been adopted for this partnership and Ann Jones asked the Working Group whether Youth Initiatives should take on the leadership of the group. Peter Pearson said that it must be made clear what CYPSP was achieving. He said there were huge opportunities and there should be free movement of ideas.

The Chairman said that he did not have the knowledge or the experience to lead the Group and looked to members of the Working Group for answers.

## 7 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **(i) Stansted**

Rachel Hutchinson reported on a meeting to discuss the current youth problems in Stansted which had taken place on 14 June. The key areas were at the train station and the youth club although there were other areas where problems were arising. The need to work together to resolve the problems was expressed. The next meeting would take place on 3 August 2005.

### **(ii) U2005**

Darren Connew referred to U2005, which was to take place in conjunction with the Saffron Walden Carnival, on 9 July 2005. Posters and flyers had been distributed and should hopefully be a good day.

## 8 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

5.00 pm on Wednesday, 5 October 2005 in the Committee Room at Saffron Walden.

The meeting ended at 6.00 pm.